

City of Tempe General/Special Election, March 8, 2016: Candidate Opportunities on Tempe 11

Updated Dec. 17, 2015

Candidate Open Mic Guidelines

Certified candidates for Mayor and City Council have opportunities to videotape five-minute messages to community members.

- For the March 8, 2016 General/Special Election, the open mic opportunities are scheduled to begin before the Regular Council Meeting on Thursday, Jan. 28, 2016. They will continue to occur before each Regular Council Meeting, through Thursday, March 3, 2016, which is the last Regular Council Meeting prior to the election.
- Videotaping occurs at 3 p.m. on the dates of Regular Council Meetings (typically held at 6 p.m.). Check the agendas posted for that date by visiting www.tempe.gov/meetingagendas. If a change to the City Council's schedule is necessary, candidates will be notified at least 24 hours in advance.
- Participating candidates shall arrive 10 minutes before the scheduled time in the City Council Chambers, 31 E. Fifth St., to draw numbers for presentation order. If a candidate arrives after the videotaping has started, that candidate will not be allowed to participate on that particular date but may do so on the next scheduled open mic taping.
- Videotaping is live, and there are no retakes. No editing is done for any candidate.
- Each session will be available for viewing at www.tempe.gov/tempe11 usually by 10 p.m. on the same day. These sessions will be catalogued on Tempe 11's website.
- Each session will air on Tempe 11 intermittently until the next Regular Council Meeting. It also will be posted to the city's social media accounts.
- The City of Tempe reserves the right at all times not to broadcast or rebroadcast any language, information or materials that are considered threatening, defamatory, or otherwise unlawful. The City also reserves the right to disclose any information or produce any material as required by law.
- The following disclaimer will be run at the beginning and end of each videotaped message: "The City of Tempe and Tempe 11 broadcast this message as a public service

and are not responsible for the content of this message. The candidates are responsible for their specific views.”

Candidate Debate/Forum Guidelines

Within available time and resources, Tempe 11 will provide interested organizations or groups with the opportunity to host televised debates or forums to which all certified candidates for Mayor and/or Council have been invited to participate.

- Starting Dec. 28, 2015, submit requests via email to Nikki Ripley at nikki_ripley@tempe.gov AND Greg Wolfe at greg_wolfe@tempe.gov.
- Requests are limited to two Mayoral debates/forums and two Council debates/forums per election (Primary & General). One televised debate/forum opportunity per week will be available (Monday and Wednesday evenings only). Requests will be considered in the order they were received.
- Televised debates/forums can begin no sooner than Jan. 20, 2016. The last allowed date of a debate/forum will be March 2, 2016.
- Each debate/forum will be videotaped in the City Council Chambers with a time limit not to exceed two hours for a City Council candidate debate/forum and 1.5 hours for a Mayoral candidate debate/forum. The time limit is two hours for a debate/forum featuring both City Council and Mayoral candidates. Dates and times are subject to the availability of the City Council Chambers and Tempe 11 staff.
- Groups/organizations must invite all certified candidates to participate. A minimum of 51 percent of all candidates must be in attendance in order for the debate/forum to be taped and televised. Prior to Tempe 11 televising the debate/forum, the sponsoring group/organization must provide written confirmation to Nikki Ripley AND Greg Wolfe that all candidates have been invited to participate.
- Each group/organization is solely responsible for debate/forum content and process. The city encourages every group/organization to conduct each debate/forum in an equitable and fair manner. However, it is every group's/organization's responsibility to achieve this goal.
- The City of Tempe reserves the right at all times not to broadcast or rebroadcast any language, information or materials that are considered threatening, defamatory, or otherwise unlawful. The City also reserves the right to disclose any information or produce any material as required by law.

- Tempe 11 will use reasonable efforts to replay each debate/forum a minimum of three times during the week following the taping. The videotapes also will be viewable at www.tempe.gov/tempe11 until after the election.
- Each hosting group/organization is given one DVD copy of its debate/forum at no cost.
- The city may not be able to accommodate all requests due to time and resource constraints.
- The following disclaimer will be run before and after each televised debate/forum: “The City of Tempe and Tempe 11 are not responsible for debate/forum content and process. The sponsoring organization is responsible for the process and general content while candidates are responsible for their specific views.”